

PERSONAL MONITORING SYSTEM**ABSTRACT**

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5 A system, apparatus and method for personal monitoring of an object are disclosed. The apparatus is associated with the monitored object and comprises one or more acquisition devices for acquiring data relating to the status of the object, a processor for interpreting the data and generating verbal messages and a radio communication device for communicating the verbal message to a user of the system. The system comprises the disclosed apparatus, together with a conventional communications apparatus operable by a user of the system and configurable to receive communication of verbal messages from the apparatus and provide an audible representation thereof to the user. Preferred arrangements include monitoring the location of a mobile vehicle and the status of devices such as an alarm system at premises of fixed location. Remote control of functional devices incorporated in the object being monitored, is also possible. Commands issued by a user are sent via a conventional communication apparatus and may comprise human speech.